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REMARKS

I. Status of the Application

By the present Amendment, claim 24 is hereby added. Claim 24 corresponds to original claim 1, which was inadvertently canceled by the Amendment filed on September 22, 2003.

Claims 2-24 are all the claims pending in the Application, with claims 2-3, 8, 16, and 24 being in independent form. Claims 2-23 have been rejected.

The present amendment addresses each point of objection and rejection raised by the Examiner. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

II. Objections to the Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a), alleging that the drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. In particular, the grounds of objection allege that the following features are not shown in the drawings: “display region is painted out in back,” “an adjustment menu for adjusting the generated first basic picture,” “a color adjustment menu,” and “a remote unit.” Applicants have corrected the drawings to show a remote control unit and a replacement drawing sheet, which includes Figure 2, is attached.

However, Applicants firmly submit that each of the other features listed in the grounds of objection, are clearly shown in the drawings. Specifically, the recitation “display region is

painted out in back,” is clearly shown, for example, by the shaded region 17' in Figure 3, and as explained in the specification on page 6, lines 18-26.¹

Likewise, the features “an adjustment menu for adjusting the generated first basic picture,” and “a color adjustment menu,” are clearly shown by the on-screen picture 17, which is shown in Figure 3 to be, for instance, a color adjustment menu for adjusting the color of the generated first basic picture. This aspect of the drawings is clearly explained, for example, in the present specification on page 7, lines 3-7.²

Therefore, because each of the features listed by the Examiner in the grounds of rejection are clearly shown in the drawings, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

III. Claims Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected claims 10-14 and 19-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. In particular, the grounds of rejection allege that the specification as originally filed does not disclose the recitation of the claims 10-14 and 19-23. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because each of the recitations listed by the Examiner in the grounds of rejection are, as demonstrated below, clearly disclosed in the originally filed specification in such a way as to reasonably

¹ “The erasure is, for example, to paint out in black a portion of the basic picture 18 of the on-screen picture region as shown in FIG. 3(c).”

² “The on-screen picture is an adjustment menu of the projected image such as the color adjustment menu. The operator manipulates the master display unit 1 by means of a remote control unit while watching the menu to execute various kinds of screen adjustments.”

convey that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

First, the recitation “because the information quantity of said second on-screen picture is essentially zero, the first on-screen picture alone is projected on said display region” is clearly disclosed, for example, on page 6, 22-28 of the present specification.³

Further, the recitation “said erasure unit is configured such that the outline of the portion of said display region painted out in black remains as the frame line,” is fully supported, for instance, by page 6, lines 14-18 and page 6, line 28 – page 7, line 2.⁴

In addition, the recitation “said first on-screen picture comprises an adjustment menu for adjusting the generated first basic picture,” is disclosed, by way of illustration, on page 7, lines 3-7.⁵

Finally, the recitation “wherein said master display unit is configured to be manipulated by means of a remote control unit while watching said adjustment menu to execute various kinds of screen adjustments,” is fully supported, for instance on page 7, lines 4-7.⁶

³ “Since the information quantity of the on-screen picture 17’ of the on-screen picture display unit 15 of the first slave display unit 2 and the on-screen picture 17’ of the on-screen picture display unit 15 of the second slave display unit 3 is essentially zero, the on-screen picture 17 of the on-screen picture display unit 15 of the master display unit 1 alone is projected on the display region.”

⁴ “Based on the on-screen data 14’, the on-screen picture display unit 15 of the second slave display unit 3 erases the portion of the basic picture 18 of the same on-screen picture region that corresponds to the on-screen picture 17 of the on-screen picture display unit 15 of the master display unit 1... However, the outline of the portion painted out in black of the on-screen picture 17’ remains as the frame line.”

⁵ “The on-screen picture is an adjustment menu of the projected image such as the color adjustment menu. The operator manipulates the master display unit 1 by means of a remote control unit while watching the menu to execute various kinds of screen adjustments.”

Accordingly, because each of the recitations cited in the grounds of rejection are fully supported by the originally filed specification, as set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

IV. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 8, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2002/159035 A1 to Koyama, *et al.* (hereinafter “Koyama”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for *at least* the reasons stated below.

As an initial matter, Applicants note that the Examiner has indicated that claim 1 has been rejected. However, claim 1 was inadvertently cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer by the Amendment filed on September 22, 2003. By the present Amendment, claim 24 has been added, which corresponds to original claim 1. Thus, the Examiner’s rejections with respect to claim 1 have been interpreted as applying to new claim 24.

Furthermore, the rejection with respect to claims 2, 8, 16, and 24 is traversed because Applicants’ invention patentably distinguishes over Koyama. However, since the priority date of the present application (August 11, 2000) is earlier than the filing date of the cited Koyama reference (March 23, 2001), it is not even prior art, and the § 102 rejection is improper.

Applicants submit herewith a verified translation of the priority document (Japanese Application No. 2000-243942) in order to perfect the claim for priority. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully

⁶ “The operator manipulates the master display unit 1 by means of a remote control unit while watching the menu to execute various kinds of screen adjustments.”

request that the rejection of claims 2, 8, 16, and 24 (which corresponds to original claim 1) under 35 U.S.C. § 102 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

V. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 2-9, 11, and 15-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Publication No. 2001/0013843 A1 to Fujiwara *et al.* (hereinafter “Fujiwara”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,077,154 to Corley (hereinafter “Corley”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for *at least* the reasons stated below.

In order for the Examiner to maintain a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103, Fujiwara, Corley, or some combination thereof, must teach or suggest all of the limitations of claims 2-9, 11, and 15-18. Applicants respectfully submit that neither Fujiwara, Corley, nor any combination thereof teaches or suggests all of the limitations of claims 2-9, 11, and 15-18.

A. Independent Claim 2

Independent claim 2 requires (among other things):

said master display unit, equipped with a generation unit configured to generate a first basic picture and an on-screen picture that is overwritten on said first basic picture; and

The grounds of rejection allege that the master display unit 11, as taught in Fujiwara, corresponds to a master display unit, as recited in claim 2. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner.

Contrary to the requirements of claim 2, Fujiwara does not teach or suggest that the master display unit 11 is configured to generate a first basic picture and an on-screen picture that

is overwritten on said first basic picture. In contradistinction, Fujiwara teaches that an image signal is output from the image source 30, and is supplied to the image signal input port D1 of master display unit 11. *See* paragraph 0044, lines 3-6. Fujiwara also teaches that, then, the image signal is processed by the image processing unit 2, included in the master display unit 11. *See* paragraph 0044, lines 6-8. Finally, Fujiwara teaches that an image corresponding to the image signal is projected onto the screen 20 by its image projection unit 3. *See* paragraph 0044, lines 8-9.

Thus, contrary to the requirements of claim 2, Fujiwara teaches projecting a single integrated image onto the screen 20. Further, Fujiwara teaches that an identical image (i.e., the same solitary integrated image displayed by master display unit 11) is then projected by each of the other projectors 12-14. *See* paragraph 0044, lines 18-19. As a result, Fujiwara does not teach, and is incapable of suggesting, that master display unit 11 is configured to generate a first basic picture and an on-screen picture that is overwritten on said first basic picture, as required by claim 2.

Furthermore, Corely also fails to teach or suggest this feature. In contrast to the requirements of claim 2, Corely teaches that a first slide projector 12, and a second slide projector 14, each project a single image, P1 and P2, respectively. *See* column 3, lines 59-62; column 4, lines 6-9. For instance, Corely teaches that projector 12 projects an image derived from a slide comprising a panel of photographic material 16, having a first image. *See* column 4, lines 57-61. In addition, Corely teaches that “soft edge masks” may be used in the slides implemented in projectors 12 and 14 to cut down the area of the image shown in each slide

respectively. However, Corely does not teach that either of the projectors 12 or 14 are configured to generate a first basic picture and an on-screen picture that is overwritten on said first basic picture, as required by claim 2. In fact, Corely teaches just the opposite—that both projectors 12 and 14 project a single image alone, which may be partially masked out by a soft edge mask.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 2 is patentable over Fujiwara, Corley, and any combination thereof, for *at least* these reasons. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that the dependent claim 6 is allowable, *at least* by virtue of its dependency. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

B. Independent Claim 3

Independent claim 3 requires (among other things):

said master display unit, equipped with a generation unit configured to generate a first basic picture and an on-screen picture that is overwritten on said first basic picture

In view of the similarity between these requirements and the requirements discussed above with respect to independent claim 2, Applicants respectfully submit that the foregoing arguments as to the patentability of independent claim 2 apply at least by analogy to claim 3. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claim 3 is patentably distinguishable over Fujiwara, Corley, and any combination thereof, for *at least* for reasons analogous to those presented above. Further, Applicants submit that the dependent claims 4-5 and 7 are allowable *at least* by virtue of

their dependency on claim 3. Thus, the allowance of these claims is respectfully solicited of the Examiner.

C. Independent Claim 8

Independent claim 8 requires (among other things):

a master display unit comprising:

a first picture display unit configured
to generate a first basic picture; and

a first on-screen display unit
configured to generate a first on-screen
picture that is superimposed on said first
basic picture;

In view of the similarity between these requirements and the requirements discussed above with respect to independent claim 2, Applicants respectfully submit that the foregoing arguments as to the patentability of independent claim 2 apply at least by analogy to claim 8. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claim 8 is patentably distinguishable over Fujiwara, Corley, and any combination thereof, for *at least* for reasons analogous to those presented above. In addition, Applicants submit that the dependent claims 9, 11, and 15 are allowable *at least* by virtue of their dependency on claim 8. Thus, the allowance of these claims is respectfully solicited of the Examiner.

D. Independent Claim 16

Independent claim 16 requires (among other things):

a master display unit displaying a first
basic screen image on a projection screen;

said master display unit displaying a first
on-screen image superimposed on said first basic
screen image;

In view of the similarity between these requirements and the requirements discussed above with respect to independent claim 2, Applicants respectfully submit that the foregoing arguments as to the patentability of independent claim 2 apply at least by analogy to claim 16. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claim 16 is patentably distinguishable over Fujiwara, Corley, and any combination thereof, for *at least* for reasons analogous to those presented above. Additionally, Applicants submit that the dependent claims 17 and 18 are allowable *at least* by virtue of their dependency on claim 16. Thus, the allowance of these claims is respectfully solicited of the Examiner.

VI. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Serial No. 09/925,504

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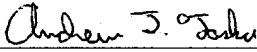
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